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A SPOKESPERSON FOR COLORADO'S TRANS-GENDERED COMMUNITY

International Foundation for Gender Education 9-15-93
P.O. Box. 367 Wayland, MA. 01778

I must respond to the recent letters published by Trans Equals founder, Laura Masters. The letter written on May 17-93 entitled Achieving Equality , and a second written on June 26-93 entitled Those Freaky Transsexuals. It was stated that "Quote" " Transgenderists, Transsexuals, and Transvestites are indeed three seperate groups with differing agendas."

Canadas Human Rights Commission has now seperately defined these three groups as being different of one another. Following this on July 13-93 Trans Equal Enforced a new policy change which states "Quote" " No new related complaints will be accepted from either Transvestites or Crossdressers, and are being dropped from their advocacy projects. However the services to Transgenderists and Transsexuals will continue uninterrupted ".

CHRC's definition of Transvestites is totally inaccurate. It describes T.V.'s as Crossdressers, and fails to mention the alternate feminine "SELF" of a Transvestite. It also doesn't allow for the integration of the opposite gender identity to the masculine self, or the erosion of the masculine identity in T.V.'s otherwise known as Secondary Transsexualism. Indeed a Transvestite does suffer some form of gender conflict unlike a Crossdresser. This attitude shows an obvious prejudice toward the problems faced by Transvestites.

Trans Equal also states "Quote" " We must divorce ourselves from the GAY community." " One of the most prevalent misrepresentations about Transsexuals & Transgenderists is that we are motivated by extensions of homosexuality." This attitude shows an obvious prejudice and resentment toward the Gay community and the denial of homosexual attractions.
In the June 26 letter Trans Equal states " Quote" " If we are seen as men and women, not as mentally disabled or homosexual, it is very easy to accord us exactly the same rights as those offered to any other Canadian man or woman." This attitude shows an obvious prejudice towards homosexuals, grouping Gays in with the mentally disabled.!

In America if you are a biological man and attracted to other men, you are concidered by our society to be a part of the gay community. A biological man wearing womens clothes is also concidered by our society to be gay whether or not you are a woman between the ears. Whats the difference if your thrown out of your home for being Gay or Transsexual ?
Unification with the Gay community to fight discrimination and properly educate the public is the Transgendered communities ONLY HOPE for existance. !

Seperating ourselves from the Gay community and building a brick wall between our sub groups will leave us easy pray for religous right activists. You dont care about things like Colorado's Ammendment #2 because your not gay, your a woman, right?. It's not your problem if the Black man, or Hispanic is discriminated against. Your WRONG, it is your problem. Our self centered attitudes and prejudice will one day distroy us all.

The Crossdresser who calls my helpline just to talk for a half hour because they are lonely, or the trucker that needs to find size 13 high heels, is no less important than the Transsexual that needs correct information. Both peoples problems are real and important to them, and are equally important to me.! We must learn acceptance and compasion for one another , or we will leed a very empty and lonely life.

We are AMERICANS ! WE ARE ALL ONE PEOPLE ! We ask that our people north of the border keep their segregation and hatred to themselves. ! We have no place for it here !

Sincerely *Christy Hopping*

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Division of Medical Liaison and Research

Sheila Kirk, M.D.

September 22, 1993

Ms. Christy Hopping

[redacted]

Dear Christy,

I received a FAX'd copy of information sent from Dr. Biber to you and I thought I would add my comments to this.

There is real question as to whether individuals, whether preop or postoperative, really need progesterone of any kind at all. Several medical papers have shown that it isn't of very much importance and could be a problem for some individuals, in that it may interfere with the good effects that come from estrogen to your lipid profile, and it may intensify the possibilities of developing complication, for it has the very same kinds of unpleasant side effects or problems associated as does estrogen.

Secondly, when Dr. Biber says that Provera will protect your breast tissue, the only thing that I can think of that he is talking about has to do with respect to the possibility of breast cancer. This does not seem to be a major concern for the ordinary genetic male taking estrogen. By ordinary male, I'm talking about one whose chromosomal karyotype is 47 XY, and the other point to be made is that there are only three reported cases of actual breast cancer in genetic males using feminization medication over the last fifteen or more years in the world's medical literature. Until we have a study that shows us that this is of some special concern and that genetic males using estrogen are somewhat more at risk, I don't know that Provera, for that reason, is of great value.

In question 3 you ask about lower doses of Premarin and that depends upon whether you are pre or postoperative. If you are preoperative, to use 2.5 mg. daily would be an adequate dose. If you are postoperative and have had removal of testes, certainly you will want to lower your estrogen dose and appropriately. 1.25 mg. per day would be adequate.

You ask about the duration of time that estrogen is circulating in your bloodstream. You will have traces of estrogen in your bloodstream constantly. Metabolism in the liver does take place, and while an appreciable amount will probably be broken down or eliminated by way of the bowel or the kidney, there is certainly going to be a measurable amount of estrogen, particularly if you have no serum testosterone of any consequence.

Lastly, I presume by your last question as to whether or not you should take something to shut off testosterone, when you are using adequate amounts of estrogen, your serum testosterone should be within the female range. You could be placed on an anti-androgen that could eliminate somewhat the adrenal contribution of testosterone, but those products are not all together available to us in this country.

I hope I have not taken too much of a liberty in answering some of this information along with Dr. Biber. Those are, however, my feelings about all of the things that you pose to him.

Cordially,

Sheila Kirk

Sheila Kirk, M.D.

SK:jrs

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To: International Foundation for Gender Education
Office 123 Moody St. Waltham, MA. 02154

Division of Medical Liaison & Research
Dr, Sheila Kirk M.D.

Dear Dr. Kirk

I am currently in the process of composing a letter to the National Atourney Generals office , in hopes of making them aware of the discriminative policies toward transsexuals by our nations judicial system. To show the government " how and why " the judicial systems current policies toward transsexuals are an unwarranted form of physical & mental cruelty. , which the majority of people involved in the system are not subjected to. To leave no doubt in our officials mind that current policies must be changed. Also to plea for their influence in an imediate change in judicial policies on federal , state & local levels of government.

A plea in these matters will be made to all state Attourney Generals offices ,as well as governers and other officials of influencial power in our country. I think I can make a heck of a good undisputible argument in these matters. Also reasonable solutions to the problems that wont cost the system 1 dime will be added. We can not gather the masses to the voting places to back an ammendment which benefits transsexuals, but hopefully a change in policy, or at least inforcement in policy can be achieved.

This will be a pre-cursor to justified inforcement of old anti-cross dressing laws in some areas, as well as the achieved legal use of restroom facilities, as the same arguments apply to most T.S. discrimination problems. Several TS groups have vowed that any such laws inforced against them will be faught in court, on the basis that they were discriminated against because of their sex gender. "Beware establishment owners" "Starting [illegible] Suits will be filed against any merchant, establishment, place of employment, or government entity that denies the use of womans or mens restrooms , dressing rooms, Etc. to M-F or F-M transsexuals. Meaning those diagnosed or being treated by medical or mental health professionals for having Gender Dysphoria whether pre-op, post-op, or at any stage in transsition. A legal fund is in the planning stages to help transsexuals file court cases in these matters.

I was hoping as an added advantage to convincing this change, to be able to argue the statement by DR. Biber that transsexuals will lose approx. 1/3 of origional male strength. In study I cannot find what studies backed this statistic. If you can run across any legitimate information in this matter, or any other statistics that can back the argument that M-F transsexuals are physically unequal in a mens arena, it would help this issue. I have the mental aspects covered pretty well, but your recomendations would be greatly valued. Also do you have any estimation of the numbers of T.S.'s for 1993 ? I know our numbers have gone up 3-4 times at least, in the past 10 years. Also a reason for a change.

P.S. Thanks for your research on Provera. Do you think that studies are pushing toward non use ? I am still not totally at rest on the issue, on one hand it is said Provera may hirt the good benifits of estrogen to the lipid profile, and on the other hand it is said Provera may potentiate breast growth. I want the best change possible for me no matter how awful it makes me feel. Would there be a benefit in taking Provera 2 weeks out of every month ?

Thanks for all the help you have given !
Sincerely *Christy Hopping*